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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

EMIGRATION.

1. *An Account of the Settlements of the New Zealand Company, from personal Observation during a Residence there.* By the Hon. H. W. Petre. Pp. 87. Smith, Elder, and Co.
2. *Information respecting the Settlement of New Plymouth, in New Zealand, &c. &c.* Pp. 24. Lond. Smith, Elder, and Co.; Edin. C. Smith; Devonport, W. Byers.
3. *South Australian News, No. VI., Nov. 15th.* Lond. J. C. Hailes; Launceston, Cater and Maddox.

We believe there is no rational man living in this country, who has sought information on the subject, that will not agree with us in opinion, that the best, and indeed only efficient, cure for a surplus unemployed people, for branches of industry suffering from various causes, and for a more general existence of want and pauperism than is consistent with the common weal of a state,—is to be found in well-devised, well-conducted, and extensive emigration, to create colonies in other quarters of the globe where there is verge and space for human exertion, with the certainty of a return of comfort and independency. From the earliest antiquity, such was the resource of over-populous and sagacious nations; and, in short, all animated nature points it out as the remedy for the evil. At a later era than Greece or Rome exemplified, England followed the same course; and the United States of America, a new world, affords a pregnant proof of the benefits to be derived from the system. A Penn or an Ogleshorpe at once relieve the pressure upon the mother-land, and establish other empires where wildernesses spread. Reciprocal relations spring up, and the widened bosom of the earth is made sufficient for the maintenance and nourishment of all. The starving draw food from it, the industrious happiness; and if we cannot quite say *redeunt Saturnia regna*, we may at least congratulate ourselves on a blessed change, and a mighty improvement in the condition of those who remain and those who go.

We see it mentioned in the newspapers that government has turned its attention to the question of emigration on a grand and comprehensive scale; and thinking as we do respecting it, our rulers could not entertain any proposition more essential to the well-being of the British people. We were wise enough, more than a century ago, to encourage the disposition for founding colonies; and Parliament voted its thousands and tens of thousands towards carrying the projects of patriotic individuals and public-spirited associations into effect.* We trust that our enlightened age is not too enlightened in its own conceit to eschew this example of our fathers; but that, on the contrary, it will be taken up only to be followed with the needful energy and skill which the different con-

ditions of the habitable world, and the different aspects of its parts, as they relate to us, require from foresight and intelligence.

The point to be considered is, the best location of these offshoots, for the immediate provision of the settlers, for future and mutually beneficial intercourse with the mother-country, especially, and with other lands, and finally for the just treatment of the rude and ignorant races whom we dispossess of their savage inheritance. We confess that we have been much staggered with the rival pretensions so incessantly put forth, in every form which the press can employ, by the friends and advocates of the many emigration-schemes that have been laid before the public. Eye-witnesses have contradicted each other to the last tittle of evidence; and barren rocks, and pestilential swamps, and sterile deserts, have bloomed into finely wooded and picturesque regions, exuberant soils, and fertile plains. Or, *vice versa*, copious rivers have become dry and desolate; noble lakes, unwholesome marshes; milk and honey, gall and wormwood. Latterly, it is true, rather more information has been obtained with regard to several of the vaunted settlements; but still considerable doubt and darkness hangs over many of them; and when men and families come to choose where they are to establish themselves for life, this is indeed a most serious consideration. And serious as it is, we do not feel competent to offer any decisive judgment upon it—perhaps to mislead anyone who relied on us,—nor to enter into a comparison, to the best of our knowledge, of the various merits, resources, and prospects of the claims to popular adoption. We have, at present, simply to look at the cases brought into review by the publications above enumerated, and to analyse their statements briefly, but intelligibly, for the public guidance.

Of the departure of a colony for New Zealand, we had recently an opportunity to speak; and we were, in truth, very favourably impressed by the appearances and auspices under which it sailed (see *Literary Gazette*, No. 1288, pages 628 and 629). Mr. Petre's testimony more than confirms this sentiment. He, a gentleman of birth, education, and intelligence, accompanied the first great body of 1200 emigrants in 1839. He has "squatted" and explored the country; he has seen what it is, and of what it is capable; and the result is, that he has revisited England in order to make preparations for a return to, and permanent settlement at, Port Nicholson, the Company's capital in the centre of the Islands. Two vessels had preceded this colony, and some surveys were made for its guidance. It landed in February 1840, and originally located itself on a river called the Hutt; but a preferable site being discovered higher up the bay, it moved thither, and began to build the city of Wellington. From the beginning, Mr. Petre informs us, it flourished, though there was no government to superintend its acts, and only the good sense and the right feelings of the mass to keep it in a correct course. "From the hour of our landing (he says) at Port Nicholson in 1840, to that of my departure in March last, we were amply supplied with provisions. The company's importations of flour were large and

regular; and trade with the natives furnished us with such abundance of fresh pork and potatoes, that we never had to depend upon salt provisions: cattle and sheep were brought to us from New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land; and latterly fresh meat was constantly on sale at the following prices: beef and mutton from eightpence to a shilling, and pork from fourpence to sixpence. Milch cows were sufficiently numerous to afford milk and butter for constant sale. Poultry and eggs were scarce, and of course dear. Fish taken in the harbour, of great variety and excellent quality, was at all times abundant. I firmly believe that there never has been an instance in which the wants of the founders of a colony were so amply supplied from the beginning.

"The principal danger to which it was imagined in this country we were exposed, was the hostility of the natives. Most of us had made anxious inquiries on this subject before we embarked; and our conviction was, that we should be received as friends by the natives, if our conduct towards them were just and friendly. Our most sanguine expectations were completely realised. Our numbers, indeed, astonished them; and they used frequently to ask whether our whole tribe, meaning thereby all the people of England, had not come to Port Nicholson. It is probable, also, that they were overawed by our obvious superiority to any physical force that could have been brought against us in case of disputes. But, however this may be, they received us in the most friendly manner. Their services for all sorts of purposes were always at our command for a moderate remuneration. We employed them chiefly in shooting, fishing, hunting, cutting fire-wood, and, as I have said before, building houses. At first they were content to be paid with food only. By degrees their wants increased; and they required various goods, such as tobacco, clothing, and hardware. All this took place at our first squatting-establishment on the banks of the Hutt; latterly, after the bulk of the settlers were established at Wellington, the natives had begun to require money-wages in return for their labour. A similar change took place with regard to trade. At first all our exchanges with the natives were made by barter only; but long before my departure, they had begun to comprehend the use and value of money. This knowledge at last extended, in some cases, to the regular employment of our currency. One native resident at Wellington purchased a horse, which had been imported from New South Wales, and used to let it out for hire; and another had an account with the bank. Great numbers were in possession of money, which they usually carried about with them in a handkerchief, tied round the neck. During the first months of our intercourse with the natives, they usually carried muskets, but apparently from mere habit, and not on account of any fear of violence from us. We never carried arms; and the custom has now been quite abandoned by the natives of Port Nicholson. The best proof, however, of their own feeling of security is, that they are gradually destroying the stockade-defences of their villages: not that they ever feared, pro-

* Among other means, insolvent debtors of good repute and only punished for their misfortunes, were released from the prisons, by some slight arrangements with creditors, and carried to a fruitful land, where, instead of being a reproach to humanity and a burthen to the community, they became active, useful, and productive members of another and better order of things.

bably, that we should attack them; but they feel that our presence is a perfect security against aggression from distant and hostile tribes. It seemed to me that the whole character of this people was undergoing a rapid change; that they had sufficient intelligence to perceive the advantages of conciliating the settlers by orderly conduct, and of adopting our usages; and that in all probability the next generation will to a great extent amalgamate with the colonists. It is a pleasure to be able to state, that the behaviour of the colonists generally towards the natives has been signally praiseworthy."

This is an agreeable picture; and the writer goes on to state, that the climate is exceedingly healthy—the soil around the settlement very fertile for the pasture of sheep and cattle, for the growth of corn of all kinds, and potatoes—for the production of flax (likely to be the great staple of export),—the coast offering profitable whale-fishing; the vine, olive, mulberry, and other fruit-trees, looking well; plenty of native timber, of useful sorts; and, finally, coal, that source of riches wherever it is found. With such advantages already has the infant colony cast off still younger swarms; and the second pamphlet (see our head) gives an account of one of them, New Plymouth, established under the direction of the West of England branch of the New Zealand Company, which bids fair to rival the most prosperous of its competitors.

Dr. Dieffenbach, the naturalist to the New Zealand Company, states:—"If Port Nicholson will become the principal town, it does not seem doubtful that the principal agricultural settlement should be formed elsewhere, and where else could this be than at Taranaki? This country is so superior, that a large population would there find occupation and wealth; and, at the present moment, we are even unable to form a correct idea to what degree of productiveness this part of the land can be raised. I do not intend to repeat again what this soil is capable to bear. There are, however, two productions, which have not before been mentioned, and for the cultivation of which I think the country particularly well suited—I mean tobacco and cotton, two of the most important articles for the English market, and which she has now to import from other countries." And Mr. Aubrey says:—"What we saw here quite satisfied us that, if brought into cultivation, the banks of the Waitera might become the garden of the Pacific. There are no hills to contend with, as at Port Nicholson; and the size of the timber, with very few exceptions, presents but slight obstacles to the clearance of the land. Nothing can surpass the quality of the soil, if we are to judge from the luxuriant vegetation springing up every where. Some potato-stalks, growing at the native settlement, which I had the curiosity to measure, exceeded four feet in length. The wild cabbage is also to be found here, in the greatest profusion, affording a delicious vegetable for the table; but what chiefly attracted my attention was the Indian corn. This is a plant which I have seen cultivated in France, Spain, and Italy; but I never did see it come to greater perfection than here. These are, I think, sufficient proofs of the prolificness of the soil."

The expedition which left the Thames in autumn is to settle, we understand, at a place called Nelson, with, no doubt, similar ascertained capabilities; and we presume that the number of emigrants in all these places must now amount to between four and five thousand souls.

Mr. Petre's description of the colonists before any laws, &c. were introduced, is a singular pic-

ture of society. Courts of request for the recovery of small debts, and criminal courts to repress and punish offences, seem still to be wanting; but the inconvenience of having the seat of government so far to the north as Auckland, instead of the central position of Port Nicholson and Wellington, will probably lead to its transfer to the latter; and since our colonial ministry at home has come to a good understanding with the company, there can be no doubt but that fitting and superior arrangements will speedily be made.

The *South Australian News*, we are sorry to observe, presents an opposite view, and seems to beg the question of the success or defeat of that colony. It says (and no comment is needed thereon):—"Whatever plan (of emigration, under the control of government), may be adopted, we cannot doubt but a due regard will be had to the engagements already entered into, with those who purchased land in South Australia on the faith of an act of parliament, and that the money borrowed from the land-fund will be returned and applied to its legitimate purpose—the furnishing a supply of labour to the colony. Any attempt to evade such an application would be a direct breach of public faith, and tend to weaken confidence in all legislative enactments. In the interval which will probably elapse before such a plan can be matured, much may be done by those whose feelings and interests are linked with the fortunes of South Australia. They are a numerous, and would be a powerful body, if the apathy which, with some honourable exceptions, too generally prevails, were shaken off, and they would act with that union and energy which distinguished their earlier efforts, and so strongly characterises the supporters of a younger sister-colony. Much may be done, we say, to prepare the way for emigration, by the wider circulation of information adapted to the wants and desires of the intending emigrant, and commending itself to his judgment by its unimpeachable honesty and truth. Let the facts which accumulate around us, undeniably proving the astonishing progress South Australia has already made, and the high position which it must take among the Australasian colonies, be made extensively known; let the great natural resources of a colony combining within itself whatever has enriched the proprietary of the older settlements, with much of what is promised by those of more recent date, be fairly set forth,—and it will speedily assume that high standing in public opinion which it formerly enjoyed, and of which calumny and misrepresentation have not been able entirely to deprive it. Unless further steps are taken to accomplish this object—an object honourable and legitimate—the sales of land, and the emigration of capitalists, under whatever system, will be but limited in extent; and the lands already purchased, whose value would be enhanced by settlement and cultivation, will be likely to remain to the proprietor an unprofitable investment."

With this we conclude our notes on these prospects of emigration.

The Annals of the Parish, and the Ayrshire Legatees. By John Galt. With a Memoir of the Author. A new edition, pp. 321. Edinburgh and London, Blackwoods.

DURING more than a score of years many very original and delightful works have appeared from the press of the Messrs. Blackwood; and we rejoice to see that they have commenced, with the present welcome volume, a re-issue of

them in a cheap and popular form. Their bygone stores afford ample materials for the design; and the public may confidently look for an interesting series, including the admired productions of Lockhart, Wilson, and other ornaments of Scottish literature.

Of these no more appropriate and worthy forerunner could have been chosen than John Galt; and of his writings none more fit and attractive than the two contained in this volume—the *Annals of the Parish*, and the *Ayrshire Legatees*. Never were national characteristics more happily embodied, nor more humorously described—described with that quaint and quiet drollery which is so peculiarly applicable to the subjects.

But opinion has been too long and too firmly settled on the merits of Galt's local pictures to require our pointing of them out. They have been universally felt to be strikingly just, curiously accurate, and abundantly amusing. The persons live and breathe as naturally as in real existence: their ideas, words, and actions, are truth itself. Smollett is not more astute, nor Scott more genuine. There is a fine artist's breadth in the painting, and yet every particular trait has the fidelity of a Denner. Many of the *tableaux* are canvases of Sir David—the pen of the lamented Galt, instead of the pencil of the lamented Wilkie.

To the publication is prefixed a biographical memoir of the author, in which we easily recognise the sense and feeling of his friend and contemporary Mr. Moir. It is an able composition. Distinct, straightforward, and sound—not marred by puling sentiment, or gorged with pompous language; but manly, right-minded, and open, like the manly, right-minded, and open character whose varied and romantic fortunes, and, alas, misfortunes, it relates. We, too, knew honest Galt well; and many a confiding counsel have we interchanged; many a social hour have we passed together. He was a candid, true-hearted fellow; generous in prosperity, patient in adversity. More sinned against than sinning, the world used him ill when he deserved well; and his country and generations yet unborn owe a debt of gratitude which we trust will be paid in full to his descendants, the objects of his living love and of his deep solicitude, when, instead of reward and honour, he experienced only intrigue and injustice.

We revert, however, to Mr. Moir, who tells us that "the future author of the *Annals of the Parish*, and of other works which deservedly give him a place among the Scottish classics, was born at Irvine in Ayrshire, on the 2d May, 1779. In his early childhood he was of a feeble and delicate, or rather sensitive, constitution, although his complaints never assumed any serious form. His earliest instructions in reading were given at home; and, until his tenth year, he was regularly carried with the rest of his family to Greenock, in which town a part of every season was spent." Of his early years we need not mark the traces, but merely say, that he was passionately fond of flowers, and, when still very young, made many essays in poetry. He was engaged in mercantile business in Scotland till 1804, when, accompanied by his father, he came to try his fortunes in London. He formed a partnership with a Mr. McLachlan, which turned out badly; and he then entered himself of Lincoln's Inn. But literature seduced him from law; and, after careful research at home and abroad, he published his *Life and Administration of Wolsey*. In his travels he met with, and formed an intimacy with, Byron and Hobbhouse; and his memoir, detailing his intercourse with the former, is an ex-

trremely interesting narrative, though bitterly attacked by several parties at the period of its appearance. Italy, Sicily, Greece, Turkey, Hungary, &c., were visited by Galt; and the biography follows his motions, and mentions his studies and pursuits in all these regions. His *Voyages and Travels*, and *Letters from the Levant*, were published soon after his return home; and a grand scheme of commercial enterprise in the Levant filled his mind and occupied his exertions. Mr. M. at this period says:

"From the time of entering himself of Lincoln's Inn, before going abroad, until this period, he had indulged in something like bibliomania, and had been a picker up of rare and curious books to a considerable extent. He now resolved to sell off his collection, which had been made abroad as well as at home, and to quench for ever the expensive taste which prompted it. The disappointment of many cherished hopes had, by this time, damped his sanguine temperament, and sobered down much of his natural enthusiasm. Youth had lost something of its irritability along with its golden colouring; and he determined not only to fret less against the bars of the fate that engaged him, but to demean himself henceforward with something more akin to philosophical submission, if not indifference. In this chastened frame of mind, he paid a farewell visit to his native place before setting out for Gibraltar, going to every spot with which his boyhood had been familiar, and even to the churchyard, with the old familiar faces of whose mossy tombstones he claimed acquaintance. 'The journey,' he himself says, 'was, in one respect, not pleasant. I found myself prodigiously changed, and I saw many persons altered by time—changed too, I thought, in character. But the great transmutation of which I was sensible was in my own hopes. I remembered well how buoyant, even fantastical, they once had been, how luxuriant and blossomy; but I saw that a blight had settled on them, and that my career must in future be circumscribed, and very sober.' The unforeseen accidents which had hitherto thwarted many of his best-laid schemes and most fondly cherished expectations did not, however, cease here. The success of the Duke of Wellington in the Peninsula, and his triumphant entry into Madrid, blasted all hopes of success in the Gibraltar speculation. In the leisure which his situation afforded, Mr. Galt applied himself to the attainment of the Spanish language; and having free access to the garrison and town libraries, his thirst for reading was amply gratified. Some months were thus pleasantly enough spent; but it was clear that the plan of the intended establishment could not now succeed; and his health had become so affected, that a return to London for surgical assistance was imperative. He considered his taking this step as in some degree humiliating, and for some time he hesitated; but the love of life at length assumed the ascendancy. Mr. Galt had for many years enjoyed the friendship and advice of Dr. Tilloch, the editor of the *Philosophical Magazine*, and proprietor of the *Star* newspaper, and under his roof, had revised the proof-sheets of his *Voyages and Travels*. Miss Tilloch now became his wife, and afterwards the mother of his three sons, John, Thomas, and Alexander. . . . It is not (continues the writer, in an after-page, giving a fair estimate of his literary efforts to about 1818) intended to enumerate here the variety of subjects which employed his pen in the form of dissertation and biography, of tale and critique. In these off-hand effusions, much, doubtless, is of unequal merit. In the shape

of first thoughts, many things were poured forth which would have been cancelled on sober review: but throughout them all are observable the traces of a searching and vigorous intellect; of a mind original in its speculations and copious in its resources, and conveying its developments to the world in modes of expression, which, whether acknowledged or not to be always graceful, are assuredly always characteristic. His subjects might be occasionally unhappy—sometimes they were so; but whatever they were, his mode of treating them was peculiarly his own. Imitation was a meanness to which, as an author, he could never stoop; and all his works, whatever be their comparative merits, have this in common, that they bear upon them the impress of John Galt. We cannot forbear, however, making a passing mention of his life of his friend Benjamin West, the president of the Royal Academy,—a memoir full of discrimination, vigour, and acute remark; and of the *Majolo*, a metaphysical tale, founded on the obscure doctrine of secret influences, which possesses merit of a high and rare kind, and which was always reckoned by himself one of his best but least appreciated works. The delicately beautiful tale of *The Omen*, woven from similar shadowy principles, was, some years afterwards, published anonymously, and attracted great attention from those whose approbation was true fame. The real author was never suspected; and perhaps, even now, the affiliation may occasion surprise to not a few. It was attributed by some to Mr. Lockhart, by some to Dr. Maginn, by some to Mr. Hamilton, and by some to the late Mr. Barry St. Leger; and it had the honour of being reviewed and praised by Sir Walter Scott. Having settled, as it were, in his peculiar sphere, Mr. Galt seems now to have banished every other wish, and determined to pursue the even but laborious tenour of a literary life."

Then, at length, came the true spirit upon his soul—the right chord was struck—and the *Ayrshire Legatees* appeared in successive Nos. of *Blackwood's Magazine*. Cherished by the sagacity and kindness of dear old *Ebony*, the *Annals of the Parish* (though written long before) followed, and confirmed the very favourable impression made by the *Ayrshire Legatees*. Mr. M. observes:

"It is somewhat singular that Mr. Galt should have advanced to middle life, should have written so much, and been so long absent from his native country, before he fell on that vein so peculiarly his own, and from the workings of which his posthumous fame will chiefly depend. We now know, however, that the *Annals of the Parish*, that exquisite picture of Scottish character, manners, and feelings, was composed in the leisure of the author's supposed more momentous concerns, some ten or twelve years before the date of its publication; and consequently anterior to the appearance of *Waverley* and *Guy Mannering*, to which—so much for imitation—some would fain attribute its origin. Indeed it was, at the time, offered to the publishers of these celebrated works, and was returned to Mr. Galt with the assurance that a novel, or work of fiction, entirely Scottish, would not take. This illusion, as all the world knows, was soon afterwards destined to be dissipated."

His subsequent performances are too well known to require enumeration; but the great event in his career was his important mission to Canada.

"Perhaps (says his biographer) the great drawback to Mr. Galt's prosperity and happiness was the multitude of his resources;

and from his being equally fitted for a student and man of the world. As the old proverb hath it, 'the rolling stone gathers no fog;' so in the transition from one occupation and employment to another, he expended those powers, which, if long concentrated on any particular object, must have produced great results. Scarcely had Eskgrove become a literary sanctuary to him, when, from a hint from the then chancellor of the exchequer, Mr. Robinson, now Lord Goderich, that if the province of Upper Canada would undertake to pay the half of its civil expenses, the United Kingdom would undertake to discharge the claims of its clients, Mr. Galt was induced to institute inquiries regarding these resources; and, after patient investigation, the result was in the affirmative—more especially after obtaining most valuable information from Bishop Macdonnell regarding the clergy and crown reserves. Out of these proceedings the Canada Company eventually emanated. To Mr. Galt, and to him alone, it owed its origin; and, on its formation, he was appointed secretary, with a liberal salary, and afterwards, by government, one of the commissioners for the valuation of the province."

The proceedings in Canada, 1826-7, the foundation of cities and future states, take Mr. Galt out of the category of common men, and must make his name famous in ages yet to come, though, for himself, the end was dreary and ruinous. Speculators in Canada stock at home frustrated his labours and blasted his hopes. He became the victim of events he could not control; and Mr. M. states:—

"Before leaving this subject, whose untoward results went so far to blast all Mr. Galt's hopes of future prosperity, we owe it to his character to prove, from ample materials which are extant, that his treatment throughout was a species of persecution. But the progressing success of the Canada Company itself is a practical demonstration of the soundness of his views, which renders any thing like what might be construed into special pleading for him unnecessary. It may be said, however, that the now flourishing state of the company has been owing to ulterior operations. To knock, therefore, this last landing-place for apology from under the feet of Mr. Galt's revilers, we subjoin the following extract from *Three Years in Canada*, by Mr. Mactaggart, the superintendent under whom that gigantic work the Rideau canal was formed—premising that his volumes appeared in 1829. 'Mr. Galt deserves great credit,' he says, 'for the invention and management of the company. In this he has shewn a genius that is rarely excelled. He organised the whole management of business, and displayed all that tact and diplomacy which his superior talents qualify him for in such an eminent degree. He appointed surveyors and other people to look after the crown reserves in the various townships, that they might be disposed of to the company's advantage. But these reserves were not found to be of utility, as nothing like a system of settlement could be employed in relation to them, lying as they do scattered up and down the townships. However, their sale will be much in the favour of Canada, and tend much towards its improvement; for as they lay like uncleared specks amid a cleared country, they injured the progress of the settlements. On many of these reserves, squatters had taken up their abode,—a class of poor people, who, having wandered from home without the means of becoming regular landholders, are glad to find patches any where in the woods whereon they may subsist.

To these unfortunate human beings, and, in truth, to all, he shewed much tenderness, which has assisted to raise the just popularity he at present enjoys. He did not drive the squatters off the company's lands, as many would instantly have done; but sold them to the advantage both of the company and the squatters, considering the little clearings they had made as *uncleared* forest. By doing this he has established a class of people in the townships devoted to the interest of the company, who will neither despoil, nor allow to be despoiled, those valuable woods, which may yet come to good account, on the reserves. Nevertheless, there were some in Upper Canada who continued to view the exertions of the company with jealous eyes. These were they who found themselves unable to *pluck* the poor settlers before they got upon their lands, in the shape of *fees* or what not. They found the company established the settler in a twinkling, without putting him to the galling trouble and expense of hanging about office-doors, receiving rebuffs from conceited clerks, and getting their purses lightened into the bargain. Were it for nothing else but this circumstance alone, the Canada Company will be respected: when we find the distress of mankind alleviated in any degree, petty tyranny and pride laid prostrate before justice and humanity, it is enough for our affections to become attached; we want no more." In short, we see that all those competent to judge of the propriety or impropriety of Mr. Galt's mode of management, have given it decidedly in his favour; and it is painful to think that the directors of the Canada Company should, upon grounds now known to have been incompetent, have expressed their dissatisfaction without a shadow of plea, except that he was not fast enough in wringing money from the settlement, which, in plain fact, would have been totally preventing its ever rising into prosperity. Of Mr. Galt's general talents and habits of business, there never was a doubt expressed; and that he was most ungratefully dealt with, has long since been the almost universal impression. Would that the conviction had come in time! It is now too late!"

In London (1829) he was, after all his gigantic exploits, a poor man, and literature his resource; and *Lawrie Todd, Southcannan, &c.*, issued from his prolific pen. He was also for a short time editor of the *Courier* newspaper; but that duty did not suit his habits, and he gave it up. His health also suffered; and he thus depicts his situation:

"I do not get well, but I think, on the whole, am somewhat improved; and I am much inclined to resume my plan formed before the Canada Company. Mrs. Galt and I have had several conversations; and, among others, about Inveresk being our place of rest, provided we could find a spot to our liking there. I have no capital; but I can, with health, count on an income of at least a thousand a year; and if that will do, I would again retire. Give me your opinion freely on this subject, and say what you think about it. I am paying two hundred and fifty guineas for our house here, and I see that I might save a hundred;—if I took an unfurnished one, a great deal more. I have long been more chagrined than occurs to those who think my equanimity of spirits a true sign; and I can hope not to be better than I am. While in my station, I have nothing that would justify me in complaining."

His arrest for debt (the board and education of his children) by the late Dr. Valpy of Reading, was severely commented upon in the *Literary Gazette* of that period, and called forth an

apologetical justification of the harsh act. The blame was endeavoured to be thrown more on the doctor's solicitors; but no valid excuse could ever be offered for the cruel incarceration of an old friend, and that friend struck to the earth by misfortune. We believe that Dr. Valpy sincerely repented the act. He has now gone, also, to his great account; and we trust has received more of mercy than was shewn to his crushed and hapless debtor.

In 1831, Mr. Galt removed to a pretty retired little residence, called Barn Cottage, at Old Brompton, where he continually exercised his pen, in despite of very precarious and indifferent health. At last, paralysis shook his herculean frame; and attack after attack prostrated his strength.

"To those who are aware of the active and enterprising tendencies of Mr. Galt's mind, nothing can be imagined more melancholy than the situation to which he found himself at this time reduced. It would have even been a consolation to think, that his corporeal infirmities had in some degree blunted the acuteness of his feelings—but this was by no means the case; and all his manifold deprivations were spread out, as on a map before him. One after another, his three sons had left him, and all were now away from their native land; his life had been one of continued labour and exertion; and, if he had accomplished much for others, little of worldly good had accrued to himself. While yet but at that age which many consider the vigour of life, he was a broken-down and nearly helpless invalid. Of the thousands who had been delighted by his works, how few spared even a thought for their author; and while spreading the seeds of wealth and happiness around a young colony, he had been unceremoniously—shall we say ungenerously?—removed from the sphere of his usefulness. He had been dreaming golden dreams, and awoke to find himself in narrowed circumstances; and, as if in mockery of his forlorn estate, prospects of aggrandisement were held out to him, when natural impossibilities interposed. With all the eagerness to be useful, he was left alone in his solitary chair—whose only travel was from his bedroom to his parlour—to think of baffled hopes and abandoned projects,—and to feel that his talents, however successfully applied for the advancement of others, had produced but a harvest of chaff for himself. The day of his destiny he knew to be over; yet his sorrow arose not from mere chagrin. If he had looked forward to a more auspicious termination of his labours, he had also indulged in the fond hope of having accomplished more both in thought and action; and though darkened even to the verge of despair as were his surrounding views, his natural energy refused to give way, and every transient gleam of returning health brought along with it a renewal of mental exertion. The three volumes of *Literary Miscellanies* being now completed, Mr. Galt came down by sea to Scotland, late in the spring of 1834; and went into lodgings in Edinburgh, with a view of superintending their publication, ere proceeding to Greenock, where he meant to take up his abode. His temporary residence chanced to be in Hill Street, where he remained for two months. I frequently saw him at this time, and more than once drove out with him for a few miles to the country. He was now much thinner, and after a sleepless night his features were hollow and haggard; but when he engaged in conversation, his eye lighted up as in earlier days, and he became not only placid, but cheerful. There was still the same wakeful industry; his writing-materials were ever beside

him; and around lay the half-finished tale, the outlines of the projected essay, the notes for a new edition, or the recovered manuscript of a former year. To behold any fellow-mortal so circumstanced, could not but awaken feelings of melancholy—how much more so, when that individual was John Galt!"

In 1834, he was removed to Greenock, where, we are told, "At times he fell into a state of extreme languor, approaching to stupor; but as this cleared away for a space, his restless activity ever and anon returned, and at one time he would employ himself in stringing together couplets, and at another in constructing machines—which he accomplished by the aid of an expert young carpenter. But withal, the day hung heavy on his hands; for often, for weeks together, he could not move from his seat or turn in bed without assistance. What a contrast from his Canadian life!—now in contact with the newly arrived settler on the shore, and now with the aboriginal Indian in the wilderness of the primeval woods—now sailing from lake to lake—now up 'the great rivers, great as any sea.' Oftentimes, as he himself confessed, his heart died within him; but when undisturbed, it re-assumed its wonted serenity and calmness. Alone and quiet, he was occasionally, to his own sensations, as well as ever; but from the shock that his nervous system had sustained, his agitation, when in the slightest degree molested, was extreme. Away from the society of the friends of sunnier years, unable to rise, unable to read, unable to write, too often might he now apply to his days the epithet of Job, and say that he 'had no pleasure in them.' To add to all these distresses, the circumstances of his family were any thing but flourishing—indeed, were otherwise to an extent that his friends at a distance had no conception of, as it had, the year before, been bruited abroad in the newspapers that government had settled upon him for life an annuity of 200*l*. It was only recently, however, that most of them, and myself among the rest, were able to learn that the only money, after closing accounts with his booksellers, that he ever received, was a present to that amount from King William the Fourth, on the publication of his *Miscellanies*. For this well-timed act of munificence, however, every admirer of Galt will give a blessing to the memory of that sovereign."

He died on the 11th of April, 1839; and Mr. Moir thus justly sums up his character:—

"In glancing over his checkered career, it is impossible not to be impressed with the conviction that his was a severe and melancholy fate. Endowed by nature with uncommon energy and talent, he commenced life with the fairest prospects of success; but, somehow or other, misfortunes little attributable to himself, and over which he had no control, too often blighted his schemes. His very first connexion in business landed him in difficulties, which eventually drove him from his native country; and, when these difficulties were at length overcome, the precarious state of his health compelled him to a dreary length of inactive repose. Sanguine in all his projects, even a partial failure in any was keenly felt by him; and when he saw the mercenary and the mean marching forward in the walks of successful preferment, his heart must have often ached to acknowledge that 'the race was not always to the swift, or the battle to the strong.' Open, generous, and unsuspicious, he was not willing to believe that he could be subtly overreached; and the benevolence of his disposition often prompted him to be doing kind offices to others,

even to his own personal inconvenience. No one was more unselfish in pecuniary matters; and although his income was always laboriously won, it was ever open-heartedly spent. In all with whom he became acquainted, he inspired a feeling of attachment; and even when at the height of his literary reputation and worldly success, he was as unaffected and sincere as his own Micah Balwhidder. * * * The career of Galt is now closed; and in his latter years he might well sigh over 'the unwilling gratitude of base mankind.' But his is among the bright names of his country, and will stand out to after-times as one of the landmarks of the age in which he lived. Then shall the wandering emigrants whom he located have become a flourishing nation, holding his memory in honour from generation to generation; and then shall it be found that his happier works are not only valuable chronicles of obsolete manners, but that they emblazon the very idiom in which they are written."

1. *A History of British Fishes.* By William Yarrell, F.L.S. V.P.Z.S. 2 vols. 8vo. Second edition. London, Van Voorst.

2. *A Treatise on the Management of Fresh-water Fish, with a view to making them a source of Profit to Landed Proprietors.* By Gottlieb Boccus. 8vo, pp. 38. Van Voorst.

As the first of these publications proceeded through its first edition, we frequently expressed our sense of its great merits; the research and intelligence of its author; the multitude and accuracy of its illustrations. It might readily be expected from this that it would soon be called for in other editions, as it gradually assumed its place among the standard works of natural history. In his preface, Mr. Yarrell notices, that since the summer of 1836, thirty-seven new species have been added to our Ichthyology (see his Supplement in 1839), and ten more have now been ascertained; and the whole are incorporated in their proper places in the volumes before us—the sum-total being two hundred and sixty-three species. In consequence, the engravings, either novel or improved, consist of above five hundred figures.

A copious general index is another great advantage; and, in short, the work is very complete; worthy of the industry and discrimination of Mr. Yarrell, and the taste and spirit of Mr. Van Voorst.

The second of these productions, though thinner than an epicure would like any edible fish to be, even a flounder, raises a subject of very considerable importance. For some time past, there have been partial attempts to naturalise inhabitants of the sea in inland fresh waters; and also to turn to greater account than heretofore the rearing of fresh-water fish in their own native elements. It is to the latter that Mr. Boccus directs our attention; *i. e.*, to the breeding and feeding of carp, tench, and jack, in ponds and stews laid out for that purpose. He speaks of it as rather more novel in design and execution than is perhaps allowable; for if he would take the trouble to inspect even the worst-preserved of the ancient abbey and monastery repositories of this kind, he would see that the matter was perfectly understood by the worthy fathers, pious brothers, and judicious piscators, hundreds of years ago. We question much if modern improvements could be made on their successive and well-planned receptacles, which made Lent neither terror nor privation to them. But to the author:

"Fresh-water fish (he sets out by observing) are equally nutritious with those of the

sea; they are much lighter as food, and therefore easier of digestion; and were it not owing to the neglected state of ponds, which, on the old system, cause the fish to be muddy, earthy, or weedy, there is no doubt that fresh-water fish would be in greater repute and request. I do not doubt that were the system, which it is the object of this little treatise to describe, generally adopted, a very great demand for fresh-water fish would ensue; for it is a business-like adage, that if you provide for a market by a regular supply, a market is created, and increased demand follows."

He then describes the number, extent, and formation, of the necessary ponds: *inter alia*, that the first pond "should be so situated that it may receive the drainings of a village, or at any rate proximity to a farm is desirable, as all the refuse-washings from such places supply food to a large extent"—like the old abbey-grange; and that "in clay bottoms the fish do not thrive, from want of food, in consequence of the water partaking of the racy quality of the earth, which, from its cold and sterile nature, does not afford the nutriment requisite for the maintenance of the larvae of insects, worms, and other minute living creatures, in sufficient number, and so keeps the stock lean and unfit for food. In forming ponds particular care ought to be taken to make the sides shelve gradually for about six yards; and they are on no account to be deep at the sides—firstly, on account of the sward nourishing large quantities of insects, &c., the legitimate food of the fish; secondly, the ponds are not so easily poached, the shallows being protected by stakes; and thirdly, protection is afforded to the brood."

These are sensible, practical remarks; and the following notices may be new to many readers:—

"It is a well-authenticated fact that no fish of prey will ever touch tench; so it is also understood that tench act medicinally to other fish, by rubbing against them when wounded or sick. This quality is, probably, attributable to the glutinous, slimy quality and properties of its skin; for when fish have been wounded by the fangs of another, or struck by a hook, they have been frequently observed and taken when in close company with tench; and this gives rise to the presumption for so believing, and is the reason for recommending the introduction of a few tench into the stews. In Germany the fishermen call it the doctor-fish. Some people consider the tench to be of the carp tribe; I do not, as the organs of generation, fins, and other parts of the fish differ materially; and the male shews so marked a difference from the female, that as they swim about they can be selected; but this is not the case with carp. However, tench are particularly delicate, nutritious, and in good repute for the table. Jack, or pike, is well known to be the most rapacious fresh-water fish that exists; but, with all its voracity, it is absolutely necessary to have a sufficient quantity in the carp-stews, or ponds, to check increase."

If jack are necessary, eels are, on the contrary, strictly prohibited, as "they do great mischief." We are then told of the vegetable produce which ought to be encouraged.

"There are two species of weeds which are requisite in your ponds, and on which carp and tench spawn; the one is *Potamogeton natans*, or broad-leaved pond-weed, sometimes called tench-weed; the other is *Ranunculus aquatilis*, or water crow-foot. Against the former, during the period of casting their spawn, they rub themselves, either from an exciting or soothing cause; but they invariably discharge the ova

on the crow-foot, which is a long wiry weed, forming at intervals circles of fine leaves: from its toughness and close foliage, it protects the spawn and young fry from the attacks of fish of prey. I think it is by means of this weed (continues Mr. B. in rather a puzzling strain), that wild fowl convey different species of fish from one pond to another, in consequence of the gelatinous nature of the ova causing them to adhere to the feathers of the fish while feeding; and this will account for fish being found in waters where none of the sort had been stored. Wild fowl are particularly fond of spawn; they destroy much of it, and seek the weeds encumbered with it. It is among these weeds that the fry are partially protected when they emerge from the ova; for, like every thing produced from creation's lot, in the early stage of life being perfectly helpless, so do they swim, or, more properly, float about, for three or four days, with the shell of the ova attached to them, shewing a similarity to the umbilical cord in animals; after which it falls off, and then the brood instinctively move in a shoal to the scours, for the protection against other fish afforded by the shallow water, as well as on account of its being warmer and of lighter weight to their small frames. It is during the first movement from the egg, that fish of prey, especially eels, are so destructive to the spawn-casts; and I have seen a male trout trailing over and around the layer, open-mouthed, hunting away every other fish that should make its appearance, solely to gratify his voracious appetite. To a casual observer, it would appear as if he protected the fry; but this is not the case, as he does not even permit the spawner to approach; and were protection the object, every trout-stream would be swarming with millions of fry; whereas it is difficult to keep a trout-stream in a tolerably well-stocked state. I will, however, give a remedy, which will well repay any gentleman for the little trouble it may give his keeper. Take a box, such as I have described under the head of stew-boxes, and fill the bottom with clean good gravel, not too large; in the month of November, or month before spawning, place in the box a spawner and milter of good size, then sink it in the deep stream where there is plenty of water, so that it may be well covered during the period of spawning; and when the fish have cast, take them out and turn them adrift into the river; then move the box into shallow water, which, being influenced by the early rays of the sun, will bring forth the fry; keep them in the box until they are about half an inch long, then turn them out on the shallows. By this simple process no store would be wanting, and the trout-stream would always be well stocked."

We have quoted the whole of this passage for its useful information; but have marked in italics the phrases which have perplexed us. What species the feathered fish belong to, even Mr. Yarrell has not informed us: they must, we suppose, be flying fish of some kind or another: though "creation's lot" has not as yet cast any of them in our way.

The last portion of the book contains some German recipes for cooking fresh-water fish, which do not strike us in reading to be particularly good; but, not having tried them, we will not pronounce them, with all their onions, shallots, vinegar ("boiled blue"), bacon, cloves, and allspice, to be absolutely unpalatable. We will, however, give one as a specimen; and if any of our fair housekeeping-friends like the experiment, all that could be said would be,

"O flesh, flesh, how art thou fishified!"

"*Fish-Soup disguised*.—Take carp, tench, jack, perch, and eels, clean them and scale them; then cut them into pieces, and fry them in lard until pardoned; then put them into the stew-pan well covered with water, which season with salt, whole pepper, cloves, and allspice; add turnips, carrots, onions, parsnips, parsley-roots, celery, and potherbs; let it boil two or three hours, till the fish is quite in pieces, then strain the whole through a tamis, and season further with Chili vinegar, eschalot wine, anchovy sauce, catsup, and a glass or two of port wine, let it boil up, and then serve up for soup. This, if properly arranged, will be so disguised as not to taste of fish; and when cold is so gelatinous, that it may be cut the same as mock-turtle soup."

The Matchmaker. A Novel. By the Author of "Cousin Geoffrey" and "The Marrying Man." 3 vols. post 8vo. Colburn, London.

We had ensconced ourselves in a comfortable arm-chair before a blazing fire, quite resolved upon a quiet nothing-to-do evening, and had hardly got into our first doze of waking thoughts, when our reverie was interrupted by a smart rap at our door, quickly followed by the entrance of the devil (the printer's devil, gentle reader), with a paper parcel, and a peremptory order for "more copy." With a very ill grace the parcel was torn open, and *The Matchmaker* discovered. The very title restored us to our good-humour; and, in hopes of ascertaining by what means young men are deluded into men of family, we turned to its pages *con amore*; and from a very pleasant banquet we, in our plenitude, give our readers the following choice pickings:—

"Mrs. Lindsay was an unsuspected matchmaker; for she never betrayed the very bad taste evinced in any thing like shewing girls off. She knew how much opposition there is in man's stubborn heart—she knew that most men hate the accomplishments which are forced upon them. If a mamma begs her 'darling girl,' or her 'sweet love,' to oblige her with an overture or a song, the man listens with an angry and impatient fear of being victimised, bored, taken in, &c.; the same performance, had the mamma nothing to do with it, would have thrown him into ecstasies. So with drawing: large portfolios, she said, brought forward for display, were wearisome and odious; but let a man find out, as if by chance, that a girl had an undreamt-of talent for drawing—let her carelessly sketch something at hand, his own profile perhaps, or his favourite dog, and ten to one his admiration increases, and his intentions, if wavering before, become confirmed. Mrs. Lindsay had nothing of the transparent cunning of Mrs. Primrose in the *Vicar of Wakefield*; she never betrayed her wishes by hints; she would never have bade Olivia and the squire stand up together to shew how well they were matched; she would never, when the cakes, or pickles, or home-made wine, were praised, have ascribed the merit to Olivia. Her motto was, that the love of opposition formed the basis of most men's characters; that where they saw themselves courted either by mothers or daughters, they became unattainable; that if parents seemed anxious to get rid of their daughters, they were fixtures for life; but that if, without any overstrained affectation, their parents seemed indifferent about their marrying, or rather anxious to keep them at home, the great principle of opposition was called into play—the men were not on their guard;

silently the merits of the maiden stole into their hearts; and the unsuspected matchmaker, by keeping scrupulously in the background, did what no parading, shewing-off, boasting, and palpable manager could ever achieve."

From such old ladies, Heaven protect us! Their cunning, by keeping in the background, prevents their discovery by poor deluded mortals.

There is much of truth in the following sketch, which is gracefully and feelingly penned:

"There was a strong *esprit de corps*, a real pride in and attachment for each other, remarkable in all the Fitzcibbs. The secret of this affectionate union, so rare, alas! in modern families, lay, perhaps, in their having suffered together, in their being all the world to each other; for, on the step-children of fortune, on those more likely to ask than to confer favours, the outward world looks coldly or scowlingly; and the Fitzcibbs met few kind smiles or soothing words, or attentions sweetly officious, but those that they reciprocated among themselves. And oh, how strong a tie is that of mutual suffering! We easily forget the gay companion of our pleasures; but who forgets the kind sharer and soother of a long captivity or of a blighting grief? Few summer-friends are loved as the poor prisoner loved the spider, whose death has made him immortal. No; we remember not the companions of the pleasure-boat; but those of the storm and the shipwreck we cannot forget. And so with the poor Fitzcibbs. They had battled together with the wolves of want, led on by the gaunt witch poverty; but industry was their good angel, and they conquered the hag, and drove her and her wolves from the door. Yes, those surely love the best, who have hoped, toiled, wept, feared together. In wealthy families—where all look to the future to make them wealthier still, where the death of some would enrich the rest,—the common-place and earthly-minded (and how large a race are they!) can see a compensating litter in the hand of the destroyer. They, alas! too often accustom their hearts betimes to the loss that is to be gain. Not so the poor. Not so those who, in losing those who love them, lose their all. Not so the wife, who has comforted when the world forsook, who has praised when the world blamed, who has pillowed on her breast the head that had no other shelter, who has hoped even against hope, whose eyes of faith have pierced the darkness of despair, and discovered the latent star that dawns for all. Not so the brothers, the sisters, who have had no other friends; for who courts the friendship of the unhappy?"

With another touch or two of neat sentiment, we must conclude;—heartily recommending *The Matchmaker* to its deserts.

"Ellen had saved him, and for another. But the diver wears not the pearl he risks his life to win; that which he dared all to obtain, decks some proud court-beauty. The anxious cares of the parent adorn the daughter with every grace... to bless a stranger's home. The soldier gives his life's blood, and his chief wears the laurel. Wherever we turn, we see that those who sow are seldom those who reap."

"We can all rouse ourselves for great disasters: there is a self-applause, which sustains us in an heroic combat with a grand misfortune: but the hero who rushes to battle, who leads a forlorn hope, or braves a death-wound, fearless and collected the while, may be roused to wrath and irritation by the repeated attacks of that light-infantry of the air, a swarm of knats; a monotonous street-organ, or a ceaseless bagpipe, may drive him

half frantic, or the intrusion of a villanous odour upset his equanimity."

"At his age to be dependent on those so ready to forget the past and adopt the worldling's creed,—with whom 'success is virtue, and misfortune blame.'"

Faust; a Tragedy; by Goethe. Translated expressly for Smith's "Standard Library," by Lewis Filmore. 8vo, pp. 64, double cols. London, W. Smith.

Of Mr. Smith's neat republications of standard authors in this cheap and popular shape we have had many occasions to speak favourably; but in the present instance he has gone a step farther in publishing liberality, by bringing forward an original work, and by a young and promising author.

Every German scholar has declared that Goethe is untranslatable; and every German student has endeavoured to translate him. We have him in prose and verse, by lords and commoners, males and females, young and old, pupils and teachers—and yet the line promises to stretch to the crack of doom. *Faust* being the most difficult of his works has consequently found the most attraction for French, Italian, and English linguists, and has been multiplied in all languages, literally, paraphrastically, closely, licentiously, and variously.

Yet, after them all, with very competent ability, Mr. Filmore has buckled himself to the task, and ingeniously says:

"Whatever may be the different merits of the existing translations of *Faust*, they resemble each other in one point—they were all published at a high price; more than one of them, being accompanied by engraved illustrations, appeared in an exceedingly expensive form, and, excepting to those persons who can afford to be luxurious in literature, as well as in living, may be considered non-existent. The others, though more moderate than these, are still, by the increasing tendency of the public to go to the cheapest book-market, confined to a comparative few. As all these translations are copyrights, neither of them could have been reprinted as a volume of the *Standard Library* without a previous arrangement with the individual, whether author or publisher, who held the right of disposing of the privilege; and it was thought more advisable, by the same process, to offer to the public a translation that has not yet appeared. The present version is the result; the greater portion of it was written expressly for publication in this series of standard works; though it was commenced, and some progress made in it, with but very vague ideas of publication at all."

Of the spirit of *Faust* it is well observed: "Amid all the dreams, vagaries, and absurdities of the tale, enough appears mingled with the dross of tradition to justify the characteristics of the creation of poetry. Enough is known to us to prove that the real *Faust* was a man ambitious of all knowledge, and untiring in his pursuit of it; that he exhausted the learning of his time; and finding, like the Jewish sage, that, 'in much wisdom is much grief, and he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow,' fell into a discontent and bitterness of soul. The 'much grief' of the sage proceeded from the feeling that he could not make his 'much knowledge' more; from a consciousness that, however far he reached, there was still infinity before him. There is a weariness, too, in heaping up knowledge, sooner felt than the vanity of heaping up riches, knowing not 'who shall gather them.' The human mind

gets tired of amassing knowledge that calls into exertion only one class of its faculties. It loses not its desire for more, but its longing is for knowledge of a different kind than it has hitherto acquired; it wishes to penetrate mysteries, and enter into spheres of action wisely forbidden to the human intelligence, till it has 'put on immortality.' It is the deep and universally felt wish to enter into a communion with the spirit-world, that has caused the belief in the possibility of such an intercourse; and though the forms this belief has taken are strange and absurd, sometimes filthy and revolting, its foundation is in an intelligible principle. It speaks of a tendency beyond our present state, and a knowledge of the 'great gulf' fixed between it and what is beyond us: the dreams of magic, with all their subtleties and absurdities, are but the fantastic means that man has fashioned to himself, in the vain hope of passing the abyss without going through 'the valley of the shadow of death.' It is in this struggle between the ambition of our intellect and its narrowed capacity, that poetry has found one of its noblest themes. It has been mingled with other emotions, and wrought by genius into a poem that will possess its interest for ever; for it is the expression of a problem and a mystery that man will never be able to solve or explain. Faust has become the embodiment of this great conflict of our being; in him perhaps, as its type and impersonation, working to excess, but existing in some degree in every unit of the myriads whose aggregate makes up that wonderful thing we understand by the term, human nature. Faust is also the expression of the working of other elements than these—the conflict of the passions with the intellect, as well as of the war of the intellect with our finite nature,—the working of the forces that drag us down, as well as of the aspirations that impel us to ascend. The superiority of Goethe's work on this subject above all the others arises from his having given expression to these emotions better and more comprehensively than any other writer."

Having thus disposed of the subject according to the translator's own views, we shall not at this time of day enter into any criticism upon Goethe, or his (to us always profane, and, with all its poetry, revolting) *Faust*. We do not think any thing new could be brought forward; nor, indeed, any thing old be repeated again in a new shape. All that we have to do, therefore, is to render justice to this aspiring and clever *début*, by quoting two passages of Mr. Filmore's version.

Soliloquy.

"Faust. Spirit sublime! thou gavest me, gavest me all
For which I pray'd thee. Not in vain hast thou
In fire turn'd to me thy countenance.
Thou gavest me glorious nature for a realm,
With power to feel her and enjoy. The glance
Thou didst permit me was not that of cold
And distant wondering; thou didst not forbid
My gaze to search into her deepest breast
As 'twere the bosom of a friend. For thou
Hast pass'd before mine eyes the linked chain
Of all the things that live, and it is thou
That teachest me to know, as kindred things
Unto myself, the still and silent wood,
The water, and the air. And when the storm
Rears through the forest, when the giant pine,
Overthrown, bears crashing on the neighbour-boughs
And stems that nigh it grow, in sweeping fall;
When, with dull muttering echo, to the shock
The mountain thunders,—then thou bearest me
Unto the shelter'd cave, there shewing me
What mine own nature is; mysterious then
And deep the marvels that unfold themselves
In mine own breast. Then rises to my view
The clear calm moon, that with her softening ray
Soothes all things as she soars. Then sweep around
From rocky walls, from dew-damp bush and shade,
The silver-shadow'd forms of ages past,

That gently mingle with the pleasures stern
Of thought austere and contemplation deep.
Oh! that to man naught perfect ever falls
Now feel I most; with this delight, that brings
Me near and nearer to a god—thou gavest
Unto me this companion, whom e'en now
I cannot spare, though cold and insolent
He to myself degradeth me—and turns
Thy gifts to nothing with a breath. He wakes
For ever in my soul a raging fire
For that so lovely form—and thus I reel
From fierce desire into enjoyment, and
E'en in enjoyment languish for desire!

MEPHISTOPHELES enters.

Meph. Well! of this life are you yet satisfied?
How can you in't a pleasure thus retain?
'Tis well enough that once it should be tried,
But then away to something new again."

MARGARET alone, at her spinning-wheel, sings:—

"My heart is heavy,
My peace is o'er;
I shall find it never—
Oh, never more!
Where I see him not,
Seems the grave to be!
Tuneless and harsh
All the world to me.

My poor, poor head,
And my feeble thought,
Are wandering now,
And all distraught.

My heart is heavy,
My peace is o'er;
I shall find it never—
Oh, never more.

I gaze but for him
From my window-seat;
From the threshold I stir not,
Save him to meet!

His lofty bearing,
His noble form!
The smile of his mouth,
And his eye-glance warm!

The flow of his speech,
So enchanting is;
His hand's soft pressure,
And, ah, his kiss!

My heart is heavy,
My peace is o'er;
I shall find it never—
Oh, never more.

My bosom struggles
To him—ah! where?
O might I but clasp him,
And fold him there!

And might I but kiss him
As in wish I may,
My soul on his kisses
Should die away!"

The notes, we should add, do credit to the author's taste and reading; as the translation, taken altogether, is one of the most close, faithful, and spirited, which has ever appeared. An awkward mistake, however, occurs in p. 10, line 47. Faust, on opening Nostradamus' book, sees the sign of the *Microcosm*, which gives rise to various reflections; he continues turning over the leaves for some time, till we are again told that he sees the sign of the *Microcosm*, and exclaims—

"How differently I feel before this sign!
Thou, Spirit of the Earth, art to me nigher."

The stage-direction in the original is *Erdgeist*, which of course ought to have been rendered "Earth-spirit" or "Spirit of Earth," instead of "Microcosm."

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Means of Promoting and Preserving Health.

By T. Hodgkin, M.D. 2d ed. 8vo, pp. 480. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., London.

THE fact of this work having arrived at a second edition saves us from any elaborate criticism of its contents. These were originally four lectures of the most elementary character, delivered at the Mechanics' Institute, Spitalfields; to which were added notes, which, by a

complacent loquacity, have grown up till they have altogether overwhelmed the original matter, which is now buried amid treatises on cleansing streets, trades-unions, elections, rights of property, and other strange and incongruous matter. As a member of the Society of Friends, the doctor expresses his feelings on war as opposed to Christianity, and advocates ably the cause of temperance; and it is to be hoped that his work may do good in many quarters. The Dr. is well known for his general philanthropic exertions, as well as for his professional abilities, and in none more than in his advocacy of what is due from the civilised towards the uncivilised nations,—an important question, which particularly interests us as a colonising people. We wish success, therefore, to his exertions in promoting the welfare of mankind in any way; although it is impossible to blind oneself to the platitudes and commonplaces which are contained in the present work.

The Literary and Scientific Register for 1842; combining, in a condensed form, a variety of Practical Information in Astronomy, Botany, Chemistry, Medicine, Meteorology, Zoology, and Science in general; also blank ruled pages for a Meteorological Register. By J. W. G. Gutch, M.R.C.S.L. Pp. 120. London, Sutaby and Co.

THE rapid progress which every branch of science is making, and the eagerness with which works calculated to facilitate this advancement are welcomed by the public, have frequently led us to regret that no publication similar to the one before us has been attempted. The undertaking is in itself most praiseworthy, and the manner in which Mr. Gutch has executed a very difficult task deserves the thanks, not only of every member of those scientific bodies for whose especial advantage it has been compiled, but of all who would possess a portable compendium of scientific information. The title fully explains the nature of the Register; and, of course, an analysis of such a volume is impracticable. The arrangement has been made with sound judgment, and manifests a zeal in the cause, which we would gladly see imitated. It has, indeed, our unqualified approbation; and to those who may be in search of a useful and most able guide we will only add, "*Quod petis, hic est.*"

The House of Commons, as elected the 14th Parliament of the United Kingdom, being the 2d of Victoria. By W. A. Warwick. London, Saunders and Otley; Edin., Tait; Dublin, Cumming; Cambridge, Warwick and Co.

MR. WARWICK has gone beyond the usual guides in this manual of the House of Commons, and bestowed considerable pains in procuring biographical details respecting the members who compose the present important House of Commons. This is a great recommendation of the little volume; but it is also full of useful information relating to the last two elections, the change in government, and other particulars of value in a publication of its kind.

Peace Permanent and Universal; its Practisability, Value, and Consistency with Divine Revelation. A Prize-Essay. By H. T. J. Macnamara. Pp. 354. Saunders and Otley.

THE prize of a hundred guineas by the Society for the Promotion of Permanent and Universal Peace has, as far as money and distinction go, already rewarded the author of this able essay; of which we need therefore only say, that it is honourable to his talents, feelings, and principles. It is rather oddly dedicated to Lord Palmerston, who was so long secretary at war.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

Nov. 25.—Sir John Lubbock, Bart., V. P., in the chair. The following papers were read:—1. "Explanation of the construction, positions, comparisons, and times of observations at the meteorological instruments at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, with which the observations have been made that are contained in the sheets of meteorological observations in 1840 and 1841," by Prof. Airy.—2. "On the laws of the rise and fall of the tides in the river Thames," by the same.—3. "Register of tides observed at Coringa, from January 1st to June 30th, 1841."—4. "Meteorological journal from the 20th of April, 1840, to the 29th of April, 1841, kept at the Falkland Islands, on board H.M.S. Arrow."—5. "Daily thermometrical observations at Cape Palma for May 1841." The last three papers were communicated to the society by direction of the lords commissioners of the Admiralty.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THIS society commenced its session on the 3d inst.; Mr. Murchison, president, in the chair. Two communications have been read.—1. A supplement to a paper entitled "A synopsis of the English series of stratified rocks inferior to the old red sandstone," with additional remarks on the relations of the carboniferous series and old red sandstone of the British Isles, by Prof. Sedgwick. The author commences by stating that his former synopsis is now modified, first, by the new classification of the stratified rocks of Devon and Cornwall; secondly, by a larger knowledge of fossils derived from some of the groups described; and thirdly, by new observations made during the past summer in the South of Ireland, the Southwest of Scotland, and the North of England.

New red sandstone.—The upper part of this series of strata is shewn, by sections derived from Warwickshire, to be sometimes unconformable to the lower portion, which represents the magnesian limestone and inferior beds; and the latter division is also shewn to pass into the coal measures, the intermediate strata being loaded with common carboniferous plants. In the neighbourhood of Whitehaven, however, there is no passage from the lower new red sandstone into the coal-measures, though the carboniferous Flora apparently existed in full perfection during the period in which the former strata were deposited. The new red sandstone of Dumfriesshire is shewn to be continuous with that of the plains of Carlisle; but the lower divisions of the series are considered to be wanting. The strata near Dumfries are stated to be mineralogically the same as those of Cornockle Moor, and to contain impressions of footprints. To the north of the Galloway chain the new red series occurs at very few localities; and coupling this fact with the great development in many parts of Scotland of red sandstones of the carboniferous series, the author concludes that the highest stratified beds of Arran do not represent the new red sandstone but to a portion of the coal-measures, though there is no counterpart in England of the upper conglomerate of that island.

Carboniferous series.—The change in this series, in its range from the north of England to the basin of the Tweed, are briefly noticed, and the coal-field of the latter district is shewn to be geologically far below the great coal-field of Newcastle, assuming the Scotch type, though the coal-field on the south side of the Firth conforms to the English type. The carboni-

ferous series of Scotland is then stated to be divisible into the three following groups: first, the rich deposits with numerous beds of coal, presenting in their general characters the closest analogy to the English coal-fields, though their exact position in the geological sequence cannot be determined; secondly, a great group, forming the base of the most productive coal-measures, and containing beds of coal of an inferior quality, also many thin bands of limestone alternating with sandstones and shales, and having generally thick beds of limestone at the top; thirdly, a variable deposit of red sandstone, shales, &c., containing in the higher portions coal-measure plants with even thin beds of coal, and passing downwards by insensible gradations into the old red sandstone. The author next points out the perplexity which has been introduced into the geological map of Scotland, by representing the carboniferous series and the old red sandstone of one colour; and by confounding, along a considerable part of the country bordering on the north shore of the Solway Firth, the new with the old red sandstone.

Old red sandstone.—The extraordinary irregularity of this formation in the British Isles is first noticed; the old red conglomerates of Cumberland are then compared with those on both sides of the Galloway chain; and the sections in the south of Ireland, connecting the old red sandstone with the carboniferous series, and constituting a good passage, are next described. The lower carboniferous shales there pass into roofing slates, resembling the black slates at the base of the Devonshire culm-measure; and the great coal-field in the west of Ireland, overlying the mountain-limestone, assumes the characters of the same culm-measures. These facts, the author says, remove the difficulty in classification presented by the mineral structure of the Devonshire culm-series. From the details connected with the above statements, Mr. Sedgwick draws the inference, that no new formation can be interpolated between the old red sandstone and the carboniferous series, the sequence of strata being complete; and as the sections in the Silurian country, described by Mr. Murchison, shew that no member is wanting between the old red sandstone and the Ludlow rocks, there is consequently one continuous unbroken succession from the lower division of the new red sandstone down to the Llandilo flagstone; and therefore that the argument for the true place of the Devonian system is complete. For any formation with fossils intermediate between the carboniferous and Silurian systems must have an intermediate position—must therefore be on the parallel of some part of the old red sandstone, which fills that whole intermediate position.

Sections of North Wales.—The author, after referring to his former description of the great masses of North Wales, states that his Snowdonian fossils have been found to be identical with Silurian species; and that the same result has been obtained from an examination of the organic remains of the Berwyns. Hence he concludes that in the great section of North Wales there is no positive zoological distinction in the successive descending groups, the only difference being the gradual disappearance of species which occur in the higher beds.

Cumbrian groups.—The groups exhibited in a section from Keswick, through Rendal, to Kirby Lonsdale, are, 1st, that of Skiddaw Forest; 2d, a group essentially composed of quartzose and chloritic roofing-slates, associated with innumerable igneous rocks, and bounded

by calcareous slates, which extend from the south of Cumberland to the neighbourhood of Shap Fells; 3rd, a great series of beds, ranging from the calcareous slates to the carboniferous series, and separated provisionally, by the author, into two divisions; the lower consisting of slates and flagstones, with occasionally thick, hard, arenaceous strata, the fossils containing many species characteristic of the lower Silurian rocks; and the upper being composed of arenaceous flagstones, with beds of hard greywacke, calcareous matter occasionally occurring, but no beds of limestone fit for use. The fossils of this division, a list of which, by Mr. J. Sowerby, accompanies the paper, contains numerous species belonging to the upper Silurian rocks of Mr. Murchison, or to the beds which have been considered to form the base of the old red sandstone in Shropshire. From the above specific determinations of organic remains, the author says the following definite information is obtained; namely, that the lower division is lower Silurian, and that the upper ends at the very top of the Silurian system. Two other sections are then briefly noticed: one from the Shap granite, through the fossiliferous slate, to Howgill Fell, the beds of which are placed in the upper division of the Silurian system, but not the highest part; and the other from the western boundary of the calcareous slates to Ulverston, including, 1st, the calcareous slates (*Caradoc*) of Millom, in Cumberland; 2d, quartzose flagstones; 3d, the roofing-slates of Kirkby Jolith; 4th, a second band of calcareous slates, with lower Silurian fossils; and, 5th, an upper series of flags and slates, which reach to the neighbourhood of Ulverston. The last beds are overlaid by strata, of a coarse composition, but which, in a section continued to Morecambe Bay, do not shew any upper fossiliferous bands.

Ireland and South of Scotland.—Some sections in the counties of Waterford and Kerry, to which the author was conducted by Mr. Griffith, are then briefly noticed. They exhibit a fine sequence of lower Silurian rocks; but the connection with the older non-fossiliferous slates is not visible. He afterwards shews that Mr. Griffith's present grouping of the older strata, in the South of Ireland, is not only sanctioned by the section, but removes the supposed anomaly of carboniferous fossils reappearing at different levels in a descending series. The Silurian fossils of the North of Ireland, preparing for publication by Captain Portlock, are also noticed; but it is stated, that the sections of that part of the kingdom do not appear to connect these fossiliferous rocks in such a manner with the older formations, as to materially assist in their subdivisions or grouping.

Mourne Mountains, Galloway Chain, &c.—After a few details on the physical features and mineral composition of Downshire, Mr. Sedgwick describes the chain, extending from the Mull of Galloway to St. Abb's Head. The prevailing strike of this range, like that of the Mourne Mountains, is about N.E. by E., even in the neighbourhood of protruded masses of granite. The strata consist generally of a hard, fine or coarse greywacke, passing occasionally into roofing-slates, and destitute of fossils, except in the finer schists, in which the *Graptolites foliaceus* has been found. The strata which break out from under the carboniferous basin of Girvan Water, in Ayrshire, are next described, and shewn to contain many Silurian fossils. Lastly, a synoptical table is given of the great groups, ranging from the carboniferous series to the lowest beds of the North of England, the classification being as follows:—

1st, the carboniferous series; 2d, the old red sandstone (Devonian system); 3d, Silurian system; 4th, the Subsilurian, or upper Cambrian; 5th, the lower Cambrian, including the great groups of North Wales, between the Bala limestone and the older roofing-slates of Cumberland; 6th, the lower Cambrian or Skiddaw slates, and containing provisionally the chloritic slates of Anglesea and Caernarvonshire.

Our notice of the second communication, a letter from Mr. Lyell to Dr. Fitton, must be postponed till next week.

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Nov. 25.—Dr. Lee in the chair. A vast number of presents of coins, medals, and books, were announced: among the first, a donation from her Majesty the Queen, sent through the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, was the most prominent. It consisted of a series of the silver Anglo-Saxon and continental coins, found a short time since on the banks of the Ribble, at Cuerdale, near Preston: they are chiefly of Alfred, of Eadward the elder, of Archbishops Celneth and Plegmund, of the mint of Bury St. Edmunds, of Charlemagne, Louis le Débonnaire, Louis the son of Lothaire, Charles le Chauve, &c.; together with many foreign pieces of princes or towns hitherto unknown to numismatists.

M. C. Lenormant, keeper of the medals in the Royal Library of France, was elected an associate. The secretary then read a paper from M. Adrien de Longperier, of Paris, on a singular gold coin of Offa, king of Mercia. On one side is an Arabic inscription, interpreted, "In the name of God was coined this dinar, in the year 157;" in the centre, "Mahommed, apostle of God," and the words, "OFFA REX." On the reverse, "Mahomet sent by God with the true faith to prevail over all religions." The date on this unique coin answers to the year 774 of the Christian era. Offa began to reign in 755. The writer considered it probable that it was copied from some eastern coin, brought into Europe by the Arabs who, in 785, fled from the persecutions of the Caliph Haidi.

A paper, by Edward Hawkins, Esq., giving an elaborate and circumstantial account of the Cuerdale treasure-trove, was commenced, and postponed to the next meeting.

PARIS LETTER.

Paris, Nov. 25, 1841.

Academy of Sciences. Sitting of Nov. 15.—A good deal of attention was excited in the Academy by the communication of some circumstances connected with a case of farcy recently caught by a medical assistant in the Hôpital Necker, from a patient who was himself affected with it, and had taken it from a horse. It had been hitherto doubted whether the disease could be communicated by the human subject; but this fact M. Bérard, who read a notice on the case, observed was now certain. The assistant, named Rocher, had been curious to study the case, and had paid particular attention to the patient up to the time of the latter sinking a victim to the fatal malady. After the decease, he assisted in dissecting the body, and, in particular, had held for some time in his hands the head, which was much purified by the results of the disease. It was under these circumstances that the malady had been communicated: for some days, even before the death of the patient, who was a groom, M. Rocher had experienced violent cholics and diarrhoea; and on the night after the groom's death was taken with a general shivering, and

pain in most parts of the body. On the third day after, the malady seemed to concentrate itself in the left thigh, the right shoulder, and right part of the chest: and, on the fifth day, M. Bérard, who attended M. Rocher, found in the thigh and shoulder tumours having a decided farcial character, and foreboding the worst results. The tumour in the shoulder was absorbed, but that in the thigh broke on the sixth day after its appearance, and the surgeons in attendance seized the opportunity of inoculating a horse. Another tumour was formed, and broke in three days, on the right foot. On the 14th day after the commencement of the malady, the interior of the nostrils became greatly inflamed; pustules were formed on the head in great numbers; a purulent discharge took place, and M. Rocher died on the 16th day. The horse which had been inoculated died of the disease the same day. M. Bérard observed that this case shewed the extreme danger of the malady, since M. Rocher had not caught it by inoculation: no cut or scratch had been made in any part of his body while the dissection of the groom's body was going on; and it had been evidently communicated by mere contact and imbibition of the pores of the skin, or by miasmatic infection. "Hence," added M. Bérard, "the farcy is a disease as much to be guarded against as the hydrophobia."—M. Bouchardat read a paper on *saccharine diabetes*, or *glucosuria*, developing the symptoms of the disease. He recommended the use of carbonate of ammonia and opium as remedies.—Dr. Double read a report of the committee appointed to examine the papers connected with the plague at Malta, recently communicated by the minister of marine. The committee found that the tenor of the documents was so vague, that no opinion could safely be formed; and recommended that fresh observations should be made.—A galvanoplastic copy of the bust of Monge, by David of the Institute, was presented to the Academy. The coat of copper had been applied to a cast of the bust with remarkable success.

A real Guido, the *Death of Lucretia*, is said to have been just discovered at Lille by a connoisseur of that town.

The annual exhibition of the works of modern artists at the Louvre will open on the 15th of March. We have not yet heard of any thing on which to form an anticipatory judgment of what the *salon* is likely to be, but we expect an absence of large pictures.

Oettinger's *Historical Archives* has been translated from German into French, and published at Renouard's, in Paris. This important work contains a chronological classification of 17,000 principal works on all periods of history, of which 3600 relate to French history alone. It makes a thick volume in 8vo, and sells for twenty-eight francs.

A new statistical journal is coming out in Paris, under the direction of Professor Blanqui, Messrs. H. Say, H. Passy, Villermé, Rossi, &c., and is to be styled the *Journal des Économistes*.

M. Chopin, author of a *History of Russia*, has published the first two volumes of a work entitled *The Revolutions of the People of the North*. They contain a luminous survey of the early history of the Scandinavian nations.

The *Bibliothèque de l'École des Chartes* should be earnestly recommended to the notice of the antiquarian world. It contains in each number three or four inedited documents, which are sent out into the light of day by the members of that school, and will in course of time become a collection of great value. Its low

price, 10 francs a year, puts it within every body's reach.

The *Collegue Héraldique de France* is a sort of genealogical club, recently set up in the Rue St. Dominique, faubourg St. Germain, for the enregistering of titles, title-deeds, pedigrees, &c.; and, in fact, performs the duties of our Herald's College. The subscription is 30 frs. a year.

A rather clever translation of Byron's *Don Juan* is on the eve of publication. The author's name has not reached us; but we have read parts of the first canto, and particularly the bed-room scene, in the *Revue du dix-neuvième Siècle*, and it gave us a most favourable idea of what the whole is likely to be. The translation is necessarily made rather freely, but it preserves perhaps as much of the spirit of the original as could be anticipated. Were it not free, it would become stiff, and stiffness is totally incompatible with Byron's muse. To give an instance, however, in which the author might have translated with more care, we observe that in the climax of Byron's splendid passage, "Tis sweet to hear," &c., "first and passionate love" is rendered by "*amour céleste*;" an excellent example of *bathos v. pathos*, notwithstanding the *hypsos* of the French epithet. The translation has this peculiarity, that it is a rare instance of the Spenserian stanza used in French poetry; and it further shews that the measure is well suited to modern French phraseology. It may be remarked *en passant*, that French poetry has lost greatly both in music and pathos since the end of the 16th century: it was classicised by Racine and his school, but it was at the same time emasculated.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, Nov. 18.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Bachelors in Divinity.—Rev. S. Reay, St. Alban's Hall, sub-librarian of the Bodleian; Rev. G. F. W. Mortimer, Queen's College.

Masters of Arts.—Rev. H. Rawlinson, St. John's Coll.; Rev. E. Smart, Jesus College; Rev. C. S. Ross, Magd. Hall; Rev. J. A. Clarke, Trinity College.

Bachelors of Arts.—H. E. Lee, New Inn Hall; C. W. Lovey, Queen's Coll.; H. S. Morgan, Ch. Ch.; J. Hemsted, Magd. Hall; W. Wiggins, C. H. Hoare, A. B. Richards, Exeter College; E. Lewis, Jesus College; G. Masters, Worcester Coll.; R. Williams, Oriel Coll.; E. R. Twiss, Univ. College; H. S. Stanhope, T. Leslie, Balliol College.

19th.—The following degrees were conferred:—*Doctor in Divinity*.—G. F. W. Mortimer, Queen's Coll. *Bachelor of Arts*.—S. Yearwood, St. Alban Hall.

CAMBRIDGE, Nov. 17.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Bachelor in Divinity.—V. Shortland, Cath. Hall.

Masters of Arts.—H. Percy, St. John's Coll.; T. E. Marshall, Emmanuel Coll.; S. Johnson, Downing Coll.

Bachelor in the Civil Law.—H. S. Herard, Christ's College.

Bachelors of Arts.—H. Halkett, W. Savviers, N. Bridges, E. L. Knight, Trinity College; R. Burridge, St. John's Coll.; F. P. Pocock, St. Peter's Coll.; D. Tancard, Christ's Coll.; W. Gover, Corp. Ch. Coll.; R. S. Smith, Caius Coll.; E. Brine, Queen's College.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

Nov. 25.—Colonel Leake in the chair. Presents of value were received and acknowledged. Mr. Birch read a paper on the hieroglyphic canon at Turin, a papyrus of rare importance; but having been found detached into small portions, and put together (evidently in some parts erroneously), its evidence of Egyptian history could not be fully and distinctly made out. It was a roll of many kings, from Seb to Rhameses the Great, the end of the eighteenth dynasty. The early record consisted of eight gods and nine demigods; after whom followed the monarchs, above three hundred in number—the

document being exactly such a roll as Herodotus informs us the priests read to him.

Mr. Hamilton continued the reading of extracts from a paper "On the origin of the zodiac," begun at the close of last session. It traced the astronomical knowledge necessary to the subject, and the consequent invention, to the Chaldeans, the learned of the Babylonians; from whom the Egyptians and Greeks obtained their information, as they did also the divisions of the day into twelve nightly and twelve daily unequal hours, measured by water-clocks and celestial observation. The division into our equal hours is not older than the twelfth century.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

Nov. 20th.—The Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston in the chair. Members elected. The secretary read a highly interesting paper, by Lieut. S. C. Macpherson,* of the Madras survey department, "On the religious practices and human sacrifices of the Khonds,"—a wild race of mountaineers, inhabiting the higher ranges of the Gumsoor country, which lies between the presidencies of Bengal and Madras; and who are, according to every probability, descended from those aboriginal tribes who peopled India before the immigration of the races who brought the Brahmin religion and the Sanscrit language from the north-west. Two other wild tribes, the Koles and the Sourahs, also inhabit Orissa; but the highest land, and the most extensive territory, is in the almost undisputed occupation of the Khonds. The religion of the Khonds differs essentially from that of the people of the plains, in having no idols. Like that of the most uncivilised people, it has no reference to the principles of morality. Certain prescribed ordinances only are pleasing to their gods; and neglect of these ordinances is offensive to them; but nothing further is contemplated. It is also to be observed, that, like many other tribes in a very low social state, the Khonds consider their supreme god to be a malignant being, only to be propitiated by cruelties; while the subordinate deities are appeased by adoration alone, or by the sacrifice of cattle. The sun and moon are worshipped by simple reverential obeisance. The god of arms is propitiated by offerings of sheep, pigs, and fowls; the Jugah Pennu, or god of small-pox, by the blood of buffaloes; but the god of the earth, who is their supreme divinity, cannot be appeased without human blood. This earth-god (named by the Khonds, "Bera Pennu") rules the seasons, sends the periodical rains, and communicates fertility to the earth. He also preserves the health of the people, and watches over the safety of their flocks and herds. All this favour is to be obtained on no other condition than the frequent effusion of human blood; and by this alone will the wrath of Bera Pennu be appeased. A victim must be immolated at the season of sowing. Every farm belonging to the community must bear the cost of providing a proper object; and each of the principal products, such as rice, mustard, and turmeric, requires a separate sacrifice. These bloody rites are to be repeated at the season of harvest; and it is essential that several sacrifices should intervene between these epochs, to prevent the at-

tention of Bera Pennu from flagging. In consequence a greater number of victims are offered when the seasons do not promise well than when appearances are favourable. During the hot months, when agricultural labours are nearly suspended, these sacrifices are not made. In addition to the periodical immolations, more victims are called for when the population is sickly; when any malady breaks out amongst the cattle; when the ravages of tigers have been unusually frequent; when any misfortune happens to the priest or his family; or, in short, whenever the priest declares that such is the will of Bera Pennu.

The victims, who are named "Merias," are always procured by purchase from a class of Hindus called "Panwas," who obtain them from among the poorer people in the plains, either by kidnapping, or purchasing at a lower price than that given by the Khonds. These people always keep a few victims in reserve, to be used in cases of certain emergencies. The Meria must be "bought with a price" by the Khond; or, otherwise, the sacrifice is an offence to the deity. He is brought blindfolded to the mountains; and when there, he is lodged in the house of the priest, fettered, if grown up; but if a child, at perfect liberty. He is in all cases revered as a sacred being; and is sometimes allowed to marry, and hold land, on the understanding that himself and children are subject to the usual fate of their class.

When a sacrifice is about to take place, a large concourse of people assemble; and three days are passed in feasting, drunkenness, riot, and obscenity. On the second morning, the victim is washed and clothed in a new dress, and led forth in solemn procession towards the sacred grove, where he is tied to a stake, and anointed with oil, ghee, and turmeric, and adorned with flowers. During the whole day he is revered with much solemnity; and the slightest relic of his person, or of the turmeric-paste with which he is smeared, is looked upon as a valuable possession. On the third morning, the brutal orgies, which fatigue had somewhat diminished during the night, are loudly renewed, and continued until noon. The horrid sacrifice is then to be consummated. The Meria's arms and legs are broken in several places to prevent his resistance at the place of sacrifice, as he must there appear to be a voluntary, unbound offering. He is then borne to the fatal spot, which is some accidental cleft in the earth, through which the god is supposed to manifest his presence. The riven branch of a tree is put over his throat or chest, and then tightened by ropes, until the wretched victim expires. The assembly immediately rush upon his body, exclaiming, "We have bought you with a price!"—tear his flesh from his bones; and each one carries away a bleeding shred to his own fields. For three days the inhabitants of the village which have offered the sacrifice remain mute, and communicate only by signs. At the end of this time a buffalo is sacrificed, and tongues are loosened.

It is not possible to estimate the annual number of victims thus slaughtered; but in the village of Borogucha, about two miles in length, and three-quarters of a mile in breadth, the party which attended Lieut. Macpherson on a survey of the localities, discovered seven victims, whose slaughter had been determined upon, and would have taken place but for their presence in the vicinity. It was intended by the Khonds to consummate the horrid sacrifice immediately on the departure of the troops; though this we trust was prevented.

We understand that Lord Elphinstone's government has evinced the most zealous determination to put an end to the practices detailed in this paper; and that Lieut. Macpherson is again despatched to the Khond country in furtherance of this object.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR

THE ENSUING WEEK:—

Monday.—Medical, 8 P.M.; Botanical (anniversary), 8 P.M.
Tuesday.—Royal (anniversary), 1 P.M.
Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 8 P.M.; Geological 8½ P.M.
Thursday.—Antiquaries, 8 P.M.; Zoological, 3 P.M.
Friday.—Botanical, 8 P.M.
Saturday.—Astratic, 2 P.M.; Westminster Medical, 8 P.M.; Mathematical, 8 P.M.

FINE ARTS.

PROMOTION OF THE FINE ARTS.

WE rejoice to see by the *Gazette* of Tuesday, that the commission, spoken of some time ago, for the purpose of inquiring whether advantage might not be taken of the rebuilding of the Houses of Parliament for promoting and encouraging the fine arts, has been appointed by the Queen, and embraces a list of names well calculated to promise something effectual in this desirable cause. The commissioners are Prince Albert, Lord Lyndhurst, the Duke of Sutherland, the Marquess of Lansdowne, Lords Lincoln, Shrewsbury, Aberdeen, John Russell, Francis Egerton, Palmerston, Melbourne, Ashburton, and Colborne, C. Shaw Lefevre, Sirs R. Peel, J. Graham, and R. H. Inglis, Messrs. Gally Knight, B. Hawes, jun., H. Hallam, S. Rogers, G. Vivian, and T. Wyse.

We may advert to the immense space of interior wall which Mr. Barry has stated would be available for this purpose; and notice the views which are, more or less, entertained by several individuals named in the commission. One is in favour of frescoes, and, considering the small practice of English artists in this branch of the profession, proposes to employ the celebrated Cornelius, whose recent visit to this country was probably connected with the plan. Another would have the ornaments to be oil-paintings, and the work performed by native artists. Some, we have heard, are for mixing both styles; and having Cornelius, and others under his direction, to do the frescoes, whilst our most eminent men produce the subjects in oil.

In this inchoate state of the inquiry, and with such individuals engaged in it, it would be presumptuous in us to offer any opinion. Our hope is that, at any rate, native, as well as German, artists will be called to the work; the judgment of Prince Albert being ripe on both. We also hope that though, in the first instance, the impulse is given for a particular object, the influence of this commission will lead to the permanent encouragement and advance of the fine arts in Great Britain. It seems, and ought to be, the dawning of a brighter day for them.

Finden's Gallery of Beauty; or, Court of Queen Victoria. Edited by P. G. Patmore. Folio. London, Tilt and Bogue.

WE thought we had done with the London splendid Annuals; but a second issue has just broke in upon us. *Finden's Gallery of Beauty* is truly a beautiful gallery, beginning with the Queen, by Lane, and followed by sixteen of the most lovely ornaments of her court, with most of whose likenesses we are familiar from their appearance in Nos. of the *Female Aristocracy*. They are arranged with the highest taste; and each has a copy of verses in honour of her personal charms and other distinctions.

* This gentleman lost his health in surveying the pestilential country of Gumsoor four years since. From the Cape—to which he had repaired for the recovery of his health—he transmitted, about a year ago, some rough notes of his recollections; from which the above paper has been extracted by his friends, without his cognizance or authority, as they deem the subject of the highest interest.

THE DRAMA.

Haymarket.—The only dramatic novelty of the week has been the successful production of an entertainment, by Mr. Kenney, entitled *Love Extempore*. It is written with all his point and finish, and is so purely comic as to be removed from the designation of farce: it is nevertheless extremely laughable, and runs, from beginning to end, in the most pleasant manner. The characters are well played by Rees, F. Vining, Mrs. Stirling, and Miss P. Horton.

Mitchell's French Company is, we are informed, nearly completed, for opening the St. James's Theatre in January. He has concluded engagements, at enormous salaries, with Dejazet, Plessis, Bouffé, &c. &c., besides having a very good stock company. Mademoiselle Mars is also talked of, for some more "last words."

VARIETIES.

Lycian Antiquities.—Lord Ponsonby has obtained the permission of the Grand Seigneur for the transport to England of the most interesting Lycian antiquities discovered by Mr. Fellows, and described in his travels. Mr. F., having the ship *Beacon* placed at his disposal, has departed from Malta for the coast of Lycia to superintend the removal of these relics.

Shooting-Stars: Halloween.—A correspondent in the *Oxford Herald* endeavours to trace a connexion between the periodical shooting-stars of Nov. 12 and 13, and the superstitious observances of Halloween, which, he says, falls on the same date, according to the old style. But such is not the case; and astronomical phenomena will not vary a week or ten days to reconcile themselves to any hypothesis, however fanciful or ingenious.

An American publication like Bent's in London, and called *The United States Literary Advertiser and Publisher's Circular* furnishes us, *inter alia*, with the following notices:—"The extraordinary success that has attended the publication of Mr. Stephens' recent work, *Incidents of Travel in Central America*, appears to be almost without a precedent in the annals of American publishing. Besides having acquired a circulation of over 10,000 copies in this country, his volumes have already been translated into French, and an edition is also about to appear in the German language. . . . We have to announce, that our distinguished tourist, Mr. Stephens, has just taken his departure for a second visit to Guatemala and its vicinity, with a view to further investigations among those interesting objects of antiquity, which, through the medium of his recent attractive volumes, have become the theme of such curious and universal study. He takes out the daguerrotype; an instrument of invaluable use, as an auxiliary to the efficient services of so accomplished an artist as Mr. Catherwood, who will also accompany the expedition. . . . The first book-auction in England of which we appear to have any record, bears date 1676, when the library of Dr. Seaman was brought to the hammer. Prefixed to the catalogue is to be found the following curious address: 'Reader, it hath not been usual here in England to make sale of books by way of auction, or who will give the most for them; but it having been practised in other countries, to the advantage of both buyers and sellers, it was therefore conceived (for the encouragement of learning) to publish the sale of these books in this manner of way.' . . . At the establishment of the

bers-street there are some rare and valuable specimens of Biblical antiquity, including, among others, a choice copy of the original edition of King James's Bible, printed in folio, black letter, dated 1611. This edition, it is of course known, is the foundation of those now in use, with the exception of the necessary alterations in orthography."

Ascent of the Jungfrau by Professors Agassiz and Forbes, &c.—The party consisted of six travellers and seven guides. Out of the party which started, four of the travellers, comprising Professor Agassiz of Neuchâtel, Professor Forbes of Edinburgh, M. Châtelier of Nantes, and M. de Lapre of Neuchâtel, and also four of the guides, reached the top. They left the Grimsel, a house of refuge among the snow, on the 27th of August, and crossed the vast mass of glacier between the Oberland and the Vallais, crossed the upper glacier of the Aar, and over an icy summit 11,000 feet high. Descending with much labour for about five hours the glacier of Viesch, they reached the chalet on the glacier of Aletsch, where they passed the night. This glacier they crossed early on the 28th, being all tied together by ropes, and passing some of the crevices of unknown depth, and too wide to leap, upon a ladder laid across. Some of them were very dangerous, from their coverings of soft snow which concealed them; and from the edge of one they had to mount a wall of snow, to which they clung by digging their feet into it. This was soon succeeded by a slope of smooth hard ice, the greater part at an angle of 45 degrees, and about 800 feet high, with precipices of immense height, descending to Grindelwald and the Roth-Thal on either side. To this they mounted by cutting with a hatchet a place for each footstep as they ascended, which required above two hours. From the top of this an inclined plane led them to the summit, which was a point from which they cut off the snow, to enable each in succession to stand upon it. They reached it at 4 p.m., a height of 13,768 English feet. The view was partially clear, and very magnificent, intersected by clouds rising from the valley, and some of them above 12,000 feet in height. The thermometer stood at 25 degrees Fahrenheit. They placed a flag on the top, and descended backwards by the icy stair they had cut, crossing the glacier by moonlight, and again reaching the chalet at half-past 11, after a walk of nearly 18 hours. In 1812, two guides reached the summit; and in 1828, two Grindelwald peasants; but until the present ascent, no traveller has ever attained its inaccessible peak, which obtained for it the name of the Jungfrau, or Virgin Alp.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Thorpe's Catalogue of Curious Books for 1842. Mr. Thorpe's Catalogues always attract our attention by the number of rarities which they contain. On the present occasion, his Catalogue forms a bulky volume of nearly 900 pages; and is altogether the most interesting thing of the kind that we have seen for a long time. We observe in it a very large number of valuable books, which are not to be found in the British Museum. We think that the managers of our great national library pay by no means so much attention to booksellers' catalogues as they might; we ourselves have frequently gone to the British Museum with a list of six or seven books connected with English history, or literature of the most necessary kind, and have not been able to find more than one, when at the same time we could find them all by taking the trouble to run round to the booksellers' shops. This ought not to be the case. In such an establishment there ought to be one person employed solely to look over catalogues.

In the press, *The Old Forest-Ranger*; or, *Wild Sports of India*, with Engravings, by Captain Campbell, of Skippens.—*The Sporting Sketch-Book*, with 12 En-

gravings on Steel, edited by Mr. J. W. Carleton.—*Cakes and Ale*, consisting of Tales and Legends, with Illustrations, by Mr. Douglas Jerrold.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Howitt's Visits to Remarkable Places, Second Series, 1 vol. 8vo, illustrated, 21s.—History of the Knights Templars, Temple Church, and the Temple, by C. G. Addison, small 4to, 12s. 6d.—Gleanings respecting Battel and its Abbey, 12mo, 3s.—Elements of Materia Medica and Pharmacy, by O. Bellingham, M.D., edited by A. Mitchell, M.D., Part 1, 8vo, 6s.—Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London, Part VIII., 1840, 8vo, 6s.—Memoir of Mrs. John West, by the Rev. J. West, 2d edit. post 8vo, 6s.—Confessions of an Apostate, fcp. 3s. 6d.—Dangers and Duties: a Tale, by Charlotte Elizabeth, 18mo, 2s.—The Mind, and other Poems, by C. Swain, 8vo, 24s.—Look to Jerusalem, by the Rev. A. Dallas, 18mo, 2s. 6d.—Philosophy of Things, by E. Johnson, 8vo, 12s. 6d.—A Parish Ready-Reckoner, by B. Dillon, roy. 8vo, 4s.—Dr. T. Hodgkin on the Preservation of Health, 2d edit. fcp. 6s.—Scriptural Instruction for the Least and the Lowest, Part I., 18mo, 4s.—Locke and Dodd's Common-Place Book to the Bible, 8vo, 9s.—The History of Job, by the Author of "Peep of Day," 18mo, 1s.—A Popular Treatise on Agricultural Chemistry, by C. Squary, 8vo, 5s.—Marton on the Properties of Soils, 3d edit. 8vo, 7s.—Introduction to the Dialogues of Plato, by Prof. Sewell, fcp. 6s. 6d.—Five Years in India, by H. E. Fane, Esq., 2 v. post 8vo, 25s.—The Last Brooch, by the Author of "The Fairy Bow," 2 vols. 12mo, 10s. 6d.—Examples and Warnings, by the Rev. Dr. Barth, sq. 4s.—Illustrations of Æschylus and Sophocles, by J. F. Boyce, Part II., 8vo, 3s.—Edipus Coloneus of Sophocles, with English Notes, by T. Mitchell, 8vo, 5s.—The Phalanstery; or, Attractive Industry, by Mad. de Gamond, post 8vo, 3s.—Book of the Poets, Chaucer to Beattie, 8vo, 21s.—Gerber's Elements of General Anatomy, with Notes, &c., by G. Gulliver, 2 vols. 8vo, 24s.—Memoir of the late Rev. Watts Wilkinson, by his Son, 8vo, 10s. 6d.—Legal Almanack for 1842, 4s.—Hardness; or, the Uncle, 3 vols. post 8vo, 14s. 6d.—The Ancestry of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, by G. R. French, post 8vo, 10s. 6d.—King Edward the Sixth's Latin Grammar, by Dr. Wordsworth, 12mo, 3s. 6d.—Psalms and Hymns, selected by S. Ellison, 18mo, 5s.—Biblical Cabinet, Vols. XXXV. and XXXVI., Neander's Church History, by Ryland, 2 vols. fcp. 14s.—A Defence of the Personal Reign of Christ, by J. Tyso, 12mo, 3s. 6d.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1841.

November.		Thermometer.		Barometer.	
Thursday . . . 18	From 30 to 37	29.23	to 29.55		
Friday . . . 19	25 . . 45	29.42	to 29.22		
Saturday . . . 20	27 . . 49	29.30	to 29.24		
Sunday . . . 21	39 . . 54	29.32	to 29.25		
Monday . . . 22	51 . . 55	29.14	to 29.32		
Tuesday . . . 23	50 . . 48	29.56	to 29.65		
Wednesday . . . 24	28 . . 48	29.77	to 29.61		

Wind north-east on the 18th; south-east and south-west on the 19th; south-west on the 20th; south on the 21st; south-west on the 22d; south-west and north-east on the 23d; west and north-west on the 24th. On the 18th, morning cloudy, with snow and sleet, otherwise clear; the 19th, evening clear, otherwise overcast, raining frequently during the morning; the 20th, morning foggy, afternoon cloudy, raining very heavily between 4 and 5 P.M., clear at 4 and 5 P.M., evening overcast; the 21st, general overcast, raining frequently during the day, wind boisterous at times; the 22d, noon clear, otherwise cloudy, raining frequently and heavily during the day; the 23d, morning clear, otherwise overcast; the 24th, clear. Rain fallen, .965 of an inch.

Edmonton. CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.
Latitude, 51° 37' north.
Longitude, 3 51 west of Greenwich.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

67. A pressure of Advertisements, at the end of the month, has happened to come upon us so late, that our extra-sheet of paper could not be prepared in time. We have therefore, to apologise for the additional intrusion on our space, for the moment, and promise to equalise it by future allowances of greater latitude. Fortunately there is really no novelty of much interest, at this dull period of dull November, to cause us to regret any omission or postponement.

Mr. Hulmandell's new process of lithotyping shall have our best attention. The description of its effects promises much for a beautiful class of art; and we only wish we had seen specimens (such as we have heard very highly spoken of), in order to give a more immediate account of them.

We thank "Anglicus" for his letter, and are proud of the agreement in our opinions; but the matter having received from us all the notice we deemed to be called for, we feel no wish to renew its discussion.

"J. K." can only be thanked; and the same reply must be given to the writer of lines addressed to the Queen Dowager.

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